

WI-311
Ernest M. Larmore House
Tyaskin
Private

1916

A rich family history documents the construction and finishing of this two-and-a-half story, four-square dwelling that stands on the edge of the village of Tyaskin overlooking the mouth of Wetipquin Creek. Ernest Marcellus Larmore (1887-1977) built this dwelling with timber cut and seasoned on the property. Erected over the course of the summer and fall months of 1916, the house was assembled for \$1,500 with assistance of carpenter Edward Larmore. Bill and Linwood Messick were the plasterers, and John "Shooter" Messick was the painter. His oak graining of the dining room woodwork survives in excellent condition. While many of the supplies and skills were drawn from local sources, the mantels, doors, windows, and hardware were delivered on steamboat from Baltimore. Ernest Larmore, at aged 29, was engaged to Mattie Culver (1890-1972), although she refused to marry until the house was finished. Much of the house furniture was ordered through Baltimore merchants as well, but a frozen harbor in late 1916 stalled delivery.

The house Ernest M. Larmore built for himself and his new wife followed in the prevailing taste of popular vernacular architecture for the early twentieth century. Labeled the American four-square by architectural historians, the four-room plan design is distinctive for his blockish proportions and steeply pitched pyramidal roof. Four

generous sized dormers add tremendous space and light to the third floor. The first floor rooms are finished with well-detailed neoclassical mantels popular during the early decades of the twentieth century. Ernest Larmore farmed this land and for a time grew a sizable sweet potato crop which he stored in the potato house erected in 1921. Packed in the ground floor space, the sweet potatoes were kept from freezing by means of stove heat and then sold in the middle of winter when prices tended to be higher.

RESOURCE NAME: Ernest M. Larmore House

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MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-311

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

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2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
1870-1930

4. Resource Type(s): Single family dwelling
-sweet potato house

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-311

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Ernest M. Larmore House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Tyaskin Wharf Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Tyaskin ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Donald C. and Sarah Lee Larmore Brohawn

street & number Tyaskin Wharf Road telephone no.:

city, town Tyaskin state and zip code Maryland 21865

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 43, P. 23
liber 1021

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 96

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-311

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Ernest M. Larmore house stands on the south side of Tyaskin Wharf Road on the northern edge of the village of Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, two-bay by two-bay, four-square dwelling faces north with a view of the mouth of Wetipquin Creek.

Reported by the current owners to have been erected in 1916, the two-and-a-half story, four-room plan frame house is supported on a concrete foundation with an excavated cellar. The house is sheathed with plain weatherboard siding and the steeply pitched pyramidal roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Joining the house on the lot is a bi-level frame sweet potato house and a smokehouse.

The north (main) elevation is a two-bay facade with a side entrance and flanking twelve-over-one sash window. The front door is partially glazed and trimmed with applied decoration. The door frame is trimmed with a slight crown molding as are all of the window openings. The first floor is sheltered by a square columned porch supported by rusticated concrete blocks. A square baluster handrail stretches between the porch columns. The second floor is lighted by a pair of nine-over-one sash windows framed by plain surrounds and trimmed with a crown molding. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice and the soffit is enclosed with narrow beaded boards. Centered on the steeply pitched pyramidal roof is a large hip roofed dormer pierced by a series of small sash windows. A six-over-one sash window is flanked by small four-over-one sash windows.

The east side elevation features a projecting square sided bay window pierced by a tripartite set of windows. A nine-over-one sash window is flanked by six-over-one sash windows. The adjacent bay is defined by a nine-over-one sash windows and a pair of evenly spaced nine-over-one sash light the second floor. Centered on the roof slope is a large hip roofed dormer pierced by a tripartite set of windows. Rectangular two-pane windows pierce the foundation wall.

The west side elevation is an asymmetrical facade with a paired set of four-over-one sash windows located mid-level in the wall in order to light the stair landing. A paired set of nine-over-one sash windows are located to the south and light the kitchen. The second floor is illuminated by nine-over-one sash, and a large gabled dormer is fixed atop the roof slope.

The south (rear) elevation is partially covered by a shed roofed extension which is supported on concrete blocks as well. Nine-over-one sash windows mark the second floor and a large gabled dormer is fixed atop the roof. A narrow brick chimney rises through the center of the house.

The interior has survived with a large portion of its early twentieth century woodwork intact. The first floor is divided into a four-room plan with the stair located in the northwest corner room, which serves as an entrance hall. A square newel post and square balusters support a molded handrail, which rises in two flights to the second floor. A wide double door opening separates the hall from the adjacent living room.

(Continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-311

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	1916	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or		
Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

A rich family history documents the construction and finishing of this two-and-a-half story, four-square dwelling that stands on the edge of the village of Tyaskin overlooking the mouth of Wetipquin Creek. Ernest Marcellus Larmore (1887-1977) built this dwelling with timber cut and seasoned on the property. Erected over the course of the summer and fall months of 1916, the house was assembled for \$1,500 with assistance of carpenter Edward Larmore.(1) Bill and Linwood Messick were the plasterers, and John "Shooter" Messick was the painter. His oak graining of the dining room woodwork survives in excellent condition. While many of the supplies and skills were drawn from local sources, the mantels, doors, windows, and hardware were delivered on steamboat from Baltimore. Ernest Larmore, at aged 29, was engaged to Mattie Culver (1890-1972), although she refused to marry until the house was finished. Much of the house furniture was ordered through Baltimore merchants as well, but a frozen harbor in late 1916 stalled delivery.

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The house deserves listing in *Category A*, which identifies properties of architectural and historical merit.

1 Personal interview with Donald C. and Sarah Lee Larmore Brohawn, 7/19/96, Sarah Lee Brohawn is the daughter of Edward Marcellus Larmore.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-311

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	7/19/96
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

WI-311
Ernest M. Larmore House
Tyaskin Wharf Road
Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 43, Parcel 23

1021/96 Ernest M. Larmore, Jr.
Sarah Lee Larmore Brohawn

to

9/24/1984 Sarah Lee and Donald C. Brohawn

Lot No. 1, Property of Ernest M. Larmore, Jr.

1.94 acres

A J S 902/784 Ernest M. Larmore, Jr.
Sarah Lee Larmore Brohawn
(Personal Representatives of Ernest M. Larmore)

to

8/1/1978 Ernest M. Larmore, Jr.
Sarah Lee Larmore Brohawn

JCK 124/571 Samuel Eldridge Porter, et ux.

to

3/27/1922 Ernest M. Larmore

WI-311
Ernest M. Larmore House
Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

Page 2

EAT 52/418

Watson D. Mitchell

to

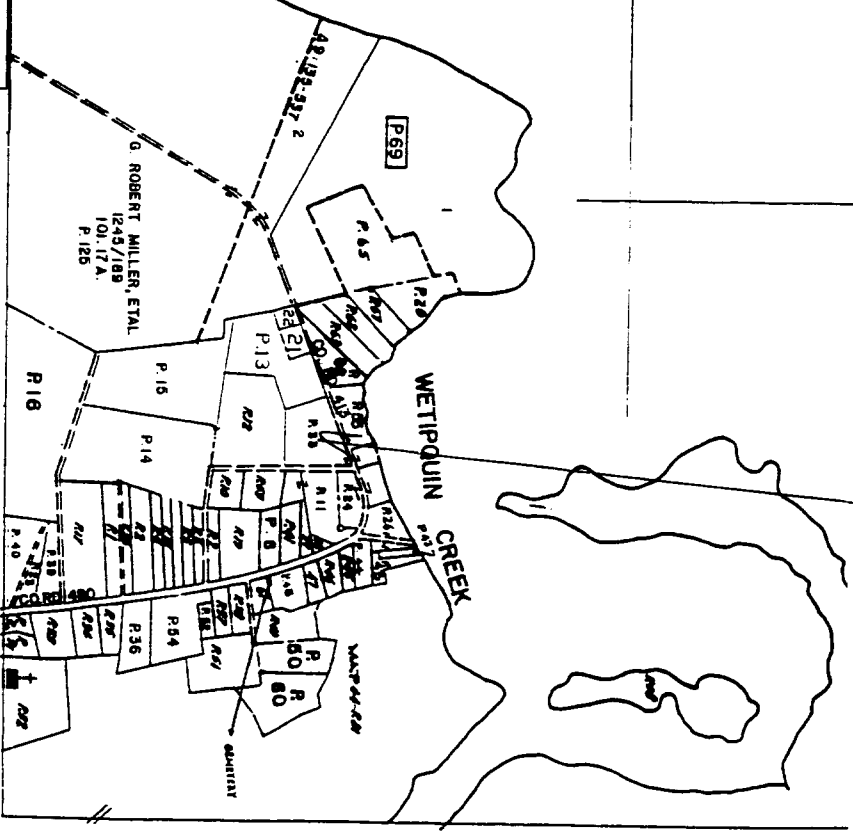
10/15/1906

Eldridge Porter

\$800 Ernest Riall tract

WI-311
 Ernest M. Larmore House
 Wicomico County Tax Map 43
 Parcel 23

WANTICOKE RIVER



1. OF ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION
 PROPERTY MAP DIVISION
 INFORMATION FROM HEREON HAS BEEN OBTAINED
 FROM THE RECORDS OF THE COUNTY AND IS NOT AN ACTUAL SURVEY
 AND NOT BE USED FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS, LOTS
 OR EASEMENTS, AND NOT BE USED TO DETERMINE THE PROPERTY
 ORIGIN, NOR TO PRESENT OR BATTLE, AND NOT
 USED TO
 DATE '94
 BY
 LAST P. NO.
 PHOTO
 QUANTITY
 SCALE 1"=600' (RF 17200)
 MUST BE PRECEDED BY A MAP NUMBER



WICOMICO COUNTY,
 MARYLAND
 73380.3mN
 498783.0mE
 1121
 1124

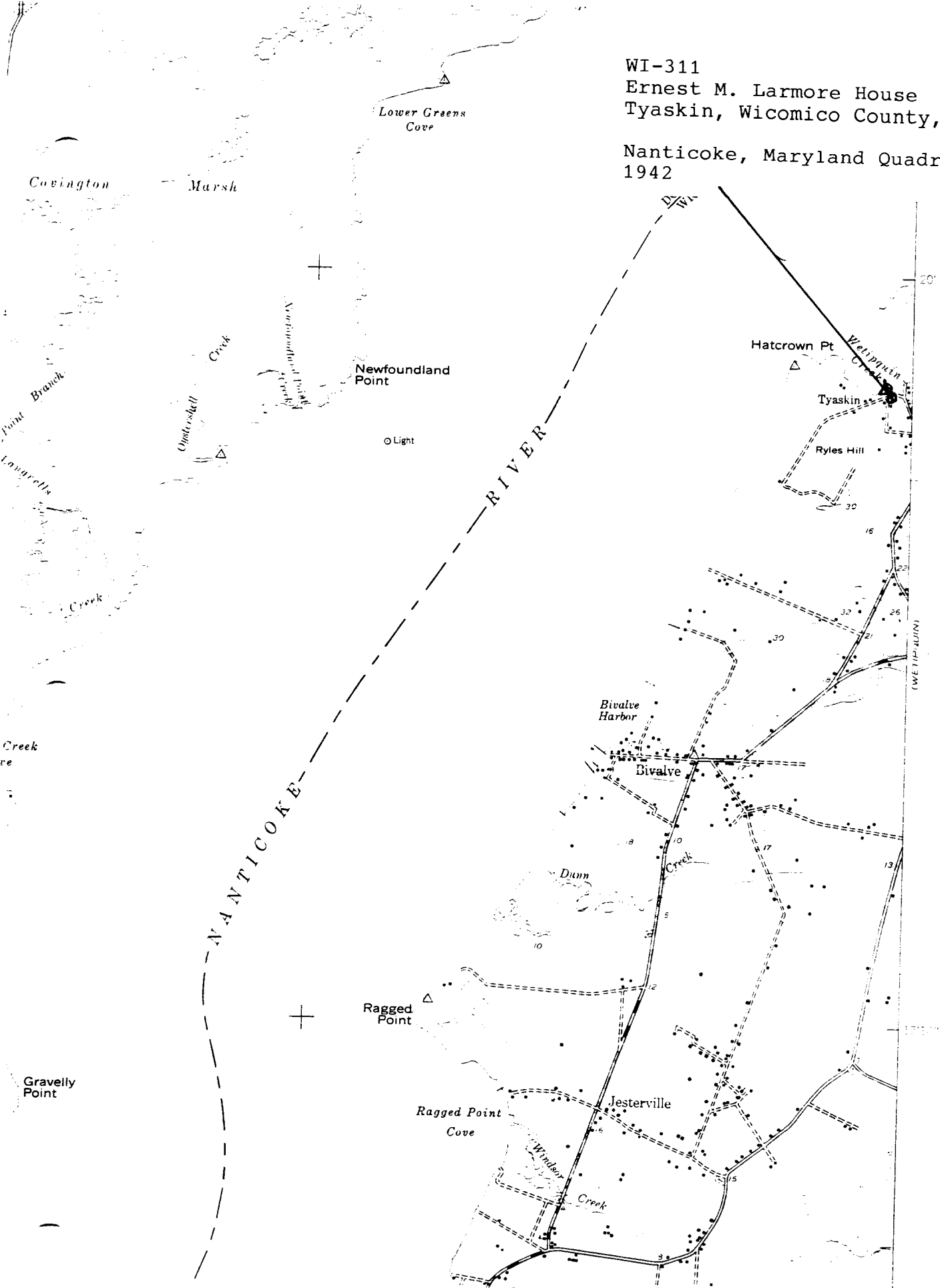
MAP NO.
 43

180

183

WI-311
Ernest M. Larmore House
Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland

Nanticoke, Maryland Quadrangle
1942







W1-311

ERNEST N. LAMBERT HOUSE

Tyngsboro, Worcester Co., MA

WOLF ELEVATOR

7/96, PAUL TOWNSEND PHOTOGRAPHY

100/MS. HISTORICAL TRAIL



W1-311

ERNEST M. LARSEN

TYABKON, Wisconsin County, N.D.

NORFOLK DIVISION OF POTATO MARSE

7/96, Pine Tower, Potomac

NEL. J. D. H. STANLEY



NI-311

ENNEST M. LAMMIE 1-4-50

Tyaron, Michigan Co, MI

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

7/96, Paul Tourant, PITTSBURGH

VER 1 MAR 1913-30-AL 1-4-50



